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Price List

1916

GEO. W. BRIDGMAN NURSERY COMPANY

Benton Harbor, Mich.



Strawberry Plants from the Heart
of the Fruit Belt

Farms located at Bridgman, Mich.

STRAWBERRIES

*“Doubtless the Almighty could have made a better berry,
but doubtless he never did.”*—Dr. Boettler.

The Strawberry is so-called either because the long stems resemble straws or because of an old custom of stringing the berries on straws. The whole Strawberry industry is less than one hundred years old, having all been developed since 1834, of the Hovey Strawberry, a variety which originated in Massachusetts. Since that time thousands of varieties have been introduced, tested and even if they were popular for a short time, have been supplanted by superior ones.

The varieties at present cultivated vary in the most remarkable degree in size, color, flavor, shape, degree of fertility, season of ripening, liability to disease and constitution of the plant. Some vary in foliage and others produce practically no runners. Within the last few years the “Everbearing” Strawberry has been developed and gives great promise for the future. Some of the varieties have passed the experimental stage and are already a success, and with us to stay. Their ripe fruit coming late in the year may be aptly compared to the fruit of a rose turned inside out.

In describing varieties a catalogue generally gives description and characteristics of the berry named in the one particular locality where the nursery is situate. For some reason, not always easily explained, a certain variety gives excellent satisfaction in one locality while in other places it is not profitable.

As a rule sandy soil is considered best for Strawberries, but there are varieties, notably the “Warfield” and some of its descendants that delight in a rich clay loam. On such soil the fruit reaches its greatest perfection.

New varieties are always produced from the seed. No method and no amount of care and cultivation can produce from runners any new or better kind than the original plant. Character of soil, climate and cultivation may improve the size and possibly brighten the color, but it will remain the same variety still.

It will be found at times that a small plant grown on light, sandy soil with small fibrous roots when transplanted to a soil filled with abundance of plant food will at once become a glutinous feeder and rapidly surpass, and prove more satisfactory

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SECTION OF NOMENCLATURE

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than the big plant with coarse roots, grown on a rich garden soil when planted in the same field.

No one can answer what is the best Strawberry for any certain locality. The Strawberry is a sensitive plant, and like a child, seems to have its likes and dislikes; sometimes it will be two or three years before the variety will become thoroughly satisfied with its surroundings and "do its best work."

Most kinds do not take kindly to a clay soil, and also rebel against too much lime. Some, like the Crescent, Dunlap and Bederwood, accept varying conditions more readily than others, more particular about their diet. As a rule all kinds respond to the care and attention bestowed and reciprocate accordingly. Often some that are unprofitable under ordinary field culture when affectionately cared for in the garden will cause the grower to become enthusiastic.

There are more than two thousand kinds named and listed, and dozens can be selected which have no appreciable difference. It will be found that a berry is very popular in some locality, under a certain name which is not the true name at all. Plants are furnished as ordered, true to name; the patron is disappointed and the nurseryman condemned. The introducer may be absolutely truthful in his description and yet the berry not succeed elsewhere.

The ideal Strawberry has not yet been found, but in some of the varieties now being introduced it is possible some one will be found to suit your soil and climate better than anything you have for profit.

Our nursery is situated in the heart of the fruit belt of Western Michigan. From Bridgman there are shipped to all parts of the country more Strawberry plants each year than from any other place in the world.

It is not possible in a short article to go extensively into descriptions or suggestions, but if you are in need of plants, we think it will be of advantage to correspond with us.

We do not claim to sell cheap plants, but aim to produce plants that will satisfy the grower as cheaply as they can be profitably grown and sold with the proper degree of care.

Our aim in presenting our 1916 price list is to assist you in making a selection of Strawberry plants, that will give you satisfaction and be a credit to us. In this lies success. Our interest in you does not cease when we sell you our plants.

Whether or not they grow means much to us.

A fine strong plant that grows and does well for you is the best advertisement we can have.

ORDER EARLY

JUST A WORD ABOUT THE PLANTING

Plants should be set as early in the spring as possible after the ground is in proper condition. Whether the hill or matted row system is better depends upon circumstances. With most varieties the hill system will produce a satisfactory yield of large berries, but the extra labor in removing the runners discourages the practice in large fields.

In garden culture the hill system is very satisfactory, as the plants can be set one foot apart, in rows four feet apart. A rich soil is required, and with careful attention any vacant space can be filled with runners from the mother plant.

In ordinary field culture, plants are set from 18 inches to 2 feet apart, in rows 4 feet apart. Some varieties, like the Crescent, Senator Dunlap and Warfield are such prolific plant makers on fertile soil that a greater distance in and between the rows is frequently desirable.

It will be noticed sometimes, that where ground is covered with fresh carriage and recently plowed, the plants will for a time give excellent promise, and then gradually wither and die. The roots of strawberry plants should not be allowed to come in contact with undecomposed droppings from yard or stable.

A certain amount of lime in the soil is undoubtedly necessary, but don't get too much. If there is plenty of humus, commercial fertilizers will give satisfactory results. On light sandy soil, if you have not barnyard products, get a supply of humus before the expense of commercial fertilizer.

Be sure and cut the blossoms from all spring set plants, for if they are allowed to fruit the first season it hurts the growth of the plants. Keep them well cultivated and free from weeds and the result will be a good crop of fine berries.

READ CAREFULLY

Order Early.—Many varieties will be soon sold out. Plants shipped early have less foliage, can be packed lightly, and will grow much better planted early than late in the season. We have had forty years' experience in growing Strawberries, and if we can assist you with suggestions as to varieties or Strawberry culture, let us hear from you.

Our Guarantee.—We send out only good plants, true to name, well rooted, well trimmed, well packed, and guaranteed to reach their destination in good condition if sent by express. In case they should prove otherwise, we gladly replace them or return

ORDER EARLY

the price. However, we will not be liable for any amount greater than that actually paid us for the plants. This warrant terminates May 1st. If mistakes occur we ask that notice be sent upon receipt of plants that we may make prompt correction. Claims made after ten days from receipt of plants will not be considered.

Terms.—Our terms are cash before shipment. You may send one-fourth cash with the order and the balance before the plants are shipped.

Second Choice.—It is an excellent plan for buyers to name a second choice in case the first should be exhausted, or give us permission to substitute. We do not take this liberty unless so instructed until after the middle of April.

Directions.—Plants should be sent by express or mail. Freight is too slow for perishable plants, all plants sent by express go 20 per cent cheaper than other goods. In ordering be sure to write your name and address plainly every time you write. Give postoffice, county and state. Be sure to say whether you want plants shipped by mail or express.

Postage Rates.—We wish to call special attention to our postage rates and explain the same. Different varieties of Strawberry plants weigh differently. Small plants like Warfield and Dunlap weigh from one-third to one-half as much as Stevens Late and Glen Mary. Again plants shipped early are much lighter in weight than those shipped when foliage has wholly developed. We must quote the same rate to everyone, although not knowing what varieties they will order. So we have adopted the postage rate of 20 cents per hundred plants. Sometimes the postage exceeds this amount and sometimes it is less, but we consider this a fair rate to both our customers and us.

References.—(By permission.) Farmers and Merchants National Bank, Benton Harbor, Mich.; American National Bank, Benton Harbor, Mich.

(Perfect varieties marked "P." Imperfect varieties marked "I.")

STRAWBERRIES

Aroma (P)—One of the most popular and profitable of the late varieties. Berries are large, glossy and bright colored. All right in every way. A fine market berry.

August Luther (P)—This is a favorite among early berries. Very productive and a good plant maker. We recommend it to those wanting an early berry.

Bederwood (P)—An excellent early berry which produces quantities of light red fruit of good quality. Plants are very strong and withstand cold and drouth well.

Brandywine (P)—A popular and productive late variety. Fruit large, very handsome and of excellent quality. A fine fertilizer for mid-season pistillates.

ORDER EARLY

Bubach (I)—An old standard favorite and one of the largest berries grown. A good variety for nearby markets and home use.

Chesapeake (P)—One of the best late fancy market varieties. Stands frost and drought well, and berries are of beautiful appearance. We have only a limited number of these plants.

Columbia (I)—A large, late berry of excellent quality, light scarlet in color. A prolific plant maker.

Crescent (I)—Succeeds under almost any circumstance and is a great plant maker, producing great quantities of good fruit.

Early Ozark (P)—Early, large, delicious and a fine color. Plants large.

Ekey (P)—A medium early variety that makes large plants, but not many of them. However, they yield well and the berries are large, dark red and very handsome.

Fendall (I)—A seedling of William Belt. Berries of large size and delicious flavor. Has a long fruiting season, and is good in every way.

First Quality (P)—One of the best growers among the late varieties, bearing fruit that is large, dark red and sweet.

Gill (P)—Fruit is of fair size and quality, but the variety is desirable because it is very early, vigorous and productive.

Gibson (P)—Early. Resembles the Pocomoke. Has a long season of bearing, producing a heavy yield of fruit. Berries are large, deep red and delicious.

Glen Mary (P)—Vigorous and prolific. Berries large, dark red, with seeds of bright yellow. Considered by many one of the best varieties. Its great size makes it valuable.

Gandy (P)—A favorite late variety. One of the best for table or market. Berries are large, fine color and bring top market price.

Golden Gate (P)—Medium early. Good plant maker, and bears for a long time beautiful fruit.

Gov. Fort (P)—Very late. A cross between the Sample and Glen Mary. A fine plant maker, and more productive than the Glen Mary, which it resembles in flavor.

Haverland (I)—A popular early market variety. One of the best growers. Very productive and adapted to almost any soil. Fruit large, conical and bright light red. There is always a good demand for this variety.

King Edward (P)—A satisfactory new variety. Its plants are large growers. Berries large, bright red and good quality. Is considered a good variety.

Latest (I)—This is a very good variety. Both plants and fruit are fine, but we have only a few plants of this variety to spare this spring.

ORDER EARLY

✓ **Lovett** (P)—A fine dependable variety for either home use or market. Bears heavily good, firm, bright berries, and is a splendid fertilizer.

✓ **Mrs. Miller** (I)—A splendid late variety, which is a prolific bearer of large, handsome fruit of good flavor and remarkable firmness.

Nick Ohmer (P)—This is a fine market berry, also a good table variety. Berries rich, deep glossy red, highly colored all the way through. Good late variety for Southern States.

✓ **Pocomoke** (P)—One of the finest market varieties known. Produces a wonderful crop of large, firm, deep red berries. Plants are fine in every way. We highly recommend this variety.

Reasoner No. 324 (P)—This variety together with Reasoner No. 370 are both new berries, sent out by the originator of Senator Dunlap. The Ohio Experiment Station Station says: "No. 324 is one of the handsomest of berries in the collection of the Dunlap type, though larger, darker and firmer."

Reasoner No. 370 (P)—Medium to late. Berries are of good size, sweet and firm. A good keeper and shipper.

✓ **Senator Dunlap** (P)—This is the most valuable berry we know for general use.

✓ **Sample** (I)—A favorite late variety in all sections. A reliable market berry, firm, bright red and of good quality. The introducer says: "Foliage perfect, fruit perfect."

✓ **Splendid** (P)—Wonderfully productive of large, firm berries of fine color. A good pollinator for medium early pistillates.

Stevens Late (P)—A fine, healthy plant, bearing quantities of large, dark berries of good quality. A good late variety.

✓ **St. Louis** (P)—A strong, healthy plant, with early berries unusually large. A fine berry for table or local market but not a good long distance shipper.

✓ **Uncle Jim** (P)—A money maker, medium late. Very popular on account of its great plants and great fruit.

✓ **Uncle Sam** (P)—An excellent late variety of long bearing. Very prolific, producing a big yield of beautiful fruit late in the season. A fine berry for northern localities.

✓ **Warfield** (I)—A great favorite for table use and canning purposes. Gives the best satisfaction when fertilized with the Senator Dunlap. Berries are of good quality, good color, good size, and very firm, making it also a good market variety.

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Windsor Chief (I)—We are testing out this berry, hoping it may be the Old Windsor Chief of 20 years ago, which was a splendid, large, late variety, dark red through and through, highly flavored, a prolific bearer on sandy soil, and a fine shipper. Only a few of this variety for sale.

Wm. Belt (P)—A mid-season variety of delicious flavor. Grows splendid plants and immense berries.

EVERBEARING VARIETIES

Americus (P)—This everbearing variety has not done so well for us as either the Progressive or the Superb, as it does not make many plants, but the berries are excellent in quality, and we consider it one of the three best varieties of everbearers.

Progressive (P)—A fine plant maker, and the new runners often bloom and bear clusters of berries before they are rooted. It produces so heavily that blossoms must be kept off until mid-summer, or the plants will wear themselves out before they get a chance to make new plants. It bears a fine looking berry of good flavor, red to the core.

Superb (P)—Plant in early Spring. Keep blossoms off until mid-summer and you will get berries the same season you plant. The next Spring you get a regular crop, and then more the following Fall. All everbearing varieties do this. In size and appearance the berries of the Superb are medium to large and very attractive.

CERTIFICATE OF INSPECTION

No. 1647

This is to Certify, that I have examined the nursery stock of **The Geo. W. Bridgman Nursery Company**, of Benton Harbor, Mich., and find it apparently free from dangerous insects and dangerously contagious tree and plant diseases.

This certificate to be void after July 31, 1916.

L. R. TAFT,
State Inspector of Nurseries and Orchards.

ORDER EARLY

PRICE LIST OF STRAWBERRY PLANTS

These prices are by express not prepaid.

When plants are ordered by mail, add 5 cents for each dozen; 10 cents for each 25; 20 cents for each 100.

Six plants of one variety at dozen rates; 50 of one variety at hundred rates; 500 of one variety at thousand rates.

Imperfect varieties (I) must have Perfect varieties (P) near them.

	12	25	100	1000
Aroma	\$0.20	\$0.30	\$0.75	\$ 3.50
August Luther .....	.15	.20	.50	3.00
Americus .....	.40	.75	2.00	12.00
Bederwood .....	.15	.20	.50	2.00
Brandywine .....	.20	.30	.75	3.50
Bubach .....	.20	.30	.75	4.00
Chesapeake				
Columbia .....	.30	.45	.75	
Crescent .....	.15	.20	.50	2.00
Early Ozark .....	.20	.30	.75	4.00
Ekey .....	.20	.30	.75	4.50
Fendall .....	.20	.30	.75	4.00
First Quality .....	.20	.30	.75	4.00
Gill .....	.20	.30	.75	4.50
Gibson .....	.15	.20	.50	3.00
Glen Mary .....	.20	.30	.75	3.50
Gandy .....	.20	.30	.75	3.50
Golden Gate .....	.20	.30	.75	4.50
Gov. Fort .....	.20	.30	.75	4.50
Haverland .....	.20	.30	.75	3.50
Joe Crampton .....	.15	.20	.50	3.00
King Edward .....	.20	.30	.75	3.50
Latest .....	.20	.30	.75	4.00
Lovett .....	.15	.20	.50	2.00
Mrs. Miller .....	.20	.30	.75	5.00
Nick Ohmer .....	.15	.20	.50	3.00
Pocomoke .....	.15	.20	.50	3.00
Progressive .....	.40	.75	2.00	15.00
Reasoner No. 321 .....	.20	.30	.75	4.50

ORDER EARLY

PRICE LIST OF STRAWBERRY PLANTS (Continued)

Reasoner No. 370.....	.20	.30	.75	4.50
Senator Dunlap.....	.15	.20	.50	2.50
Sample.....	.15	.20	.50	3.50
Splendid.....	.15	.20	.50	2.50
Stevens Late.....	.20	.30	.75	4.00
St. Louis.....	.20	.30	.75	3.50
Superb.....	.40	.60	1.75	12.00
Uncle Jim.....	.20	.30	.75	3.50
Uncle Sam.....	.20	.30	.75	4.00
Warfield.....	.15	.20	.50	2.50
Wm. Belt.....	.20	.30	.75	3.50
Windsor Chief.....	.20	.30	.75	

Try some Everbearing Plants, Americus, Progressive or Superb, and eat Strawberries in the Fall.

NOTICE

Special Price on lots of 5000 Plants
or more.



*You will eventually order
Plants from us*

—Why not now?